



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

ISSN 1522-0567

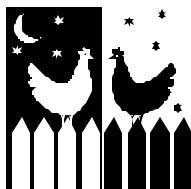
WEDNESDAY
APRIL 04, 2001
VOL. 48 NO. 41

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch



NATIONAL BROILER MARKET-AT-A-GLANCE

Trade sentiment was steady, about steady in the East. Retail demand was seasonally light affected by minimal first of the month business and interest shifting towards holiday items. Food service ranged light to fairly good, best into fast food. Supplies were at least sufficient, longest for heavier weights, with additional product discounted. In the parts structure, breast items were adequate to long, however, tenders were closer balanced and clearing. Dark meat items were adequate to tight and moving well, and wings were usually sufficient, but at times barely adequate. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were light to heavy, mostly desirable to heavy.

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES The Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for next week's trading remains unchanged at 62.00 cents based on full truck load lots of ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds. This compares to 57.25 cents last year on the 5th of April, 2000.

Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted prices on ice-packed parts for next week's trading.

DOCK PRICE (CENTS PER POUND)

BREASTS - B/S	143.50
BREASTS - WHOLE	73.50
THIGH MEAT - B/S	95.50
LEG QUARTERS	26.00
WINGS	98.50

THIS INFORMATION IS SUPPLIED BY THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S POULTRY MARKET NEWS SERVICE.

CHICK PLACEMENT AND EGG SET TOTAL

15 STATES	PERCENT CHANGE	
WEEK ENDING 03/31/01	2001	2000
EGGS SET	182,471	184,583
CHICKS PLACED	149,801	149,908

BROILER EGGS SET IN 15 SELECTED STATES DOWN 1 PERCENT

Commercial hatcheries in the 15-State weekly program set 182 million eggs in incubators during the week ending March 31, 2001. This was down 1 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 83 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

BROILER CHICKS PLACED DOWN SLIGHTLY PERCENT

Broiler growers in the 15-State weekly program placed 150 million chicks for meat production during the week ending March 31, 2001. Placements were down slightly from the comparable week in 2000. Cumulative placements from December 31, 2000 through March 31, 2001 were 1.88 billion, up slightly from the same period a year earlier.

BASED ON THE PRELIMINARY CHICK PLACEMENTS, THE NUMBER OF FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING DURING THE WEEK ENDING 12-May-01 IS ESTIMATED AT 155.2 MILLION HEAD. THIS COMPARES TO 155.0 MILLION HEAD THE PREVIOUS WEEK AND TO 156.1 MILLION HEAD THE SAME WEEK A YEAR AGO, WHEN THE SLAUGHTER WAS 158.1 MILLION HEAD AND THE 12-CITY WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE WAS 55.76 CENTS PER POUND.

WESTERN The market tone was generally steady. Offerings of small sizes adequate and fully adequate on heavy weights. Buying interest was fair for current needs. Demand was moderate to fairly good, best for parts. Floor stocks adequate. The market tone was steady overall on parts with dark meat items in the strongest position.

SOUTHERN Trade sentiment was mostly steady. Retail demand was seasonally light as focus shifted more towards needs for Easter. Food service was light to moderate. Supplies were usually sufficient for trade needs. In the parts structure, dark meat items were close balanced to tight strengthened by export interest for leg quarters. Wings continued to have strong movement with supplies short to sufficient, and breast items were at least adequate and difficult to clear. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were mostly desirable to heavy.

MIDWEST Whole broiler/fryer market tone was steady. Offerings were moderate to heavy on larger sizes, limited on lighter weight whole fryers and Wogs. Dealers usually satisfied through regular commitments. Retail movement was light to occasionally moderate with features drawing best interest. Food service demand was in a full range, mostly moderate. Floor stocks were adequate with weights desirable to heavier than desired. Trading on parts items was slow to instances moderate. Offerings on wings and dark meat items spotty, tenderloins remained active with split and whole breasts moderate to instances heavy. The market tone was steady to fully steady with a firm undertone on wings and dark meat items, steady to barely steady on breast items.

NORTHEAST Trucklot buying interest on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was mostly light to no better than fair as dealers cautiously assessed the market and limited purchases to most immediate needs. Offerings were mixed and irregular, however, all sizes ranged at least adequate to available. Movement into retail and distributive channels was limited as holiday items begin to factor into the market. The market tone was about steady. In the parts complex, breast items remained available. Leg quarters and thighs were clearing well, and wings were usually balanced to adequate.

DELMARVA Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds remained mostly light and unaggressive. Offerings were irregular in both size and volume, however, wherever extra product was available it was generally noted as discounted in an effort to stimulate buyer interest. Live supplies were about moderate; weights varied in a full range of light to heavy. Processing schedules were moderate to moderately heavy. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 51 to 65 cents. Trade sentiment was about steady. Bone-in and boneless skinless breasts were slow to clear. Leg quarters, bone-in and boneless skinless thighs were tight. Wings were adequate

*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA

BRANDED U.S. GRADE A

RANGE	45-69
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	54.56
NO. OF BOXES	11,548
*7 of 8 plants reporting.	

APRIL 03, 2001

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

APRIL 04, 2001

F.O.B. DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, ICED-PACKED, PRICES SHOWN ARE DAY OF SHIPMENT (INCLUDES CURRENT AND PRIOR NEGOTIATIONS), TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUME, CENTS PER POUND.

ITEM	POUNDS (000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	856	120.00-210.00	140-145	143.09
TENDERLOINS	151	140.00-220.00	145	154.60
BREAST - LINE RUN	122	73.00-78.00	75-76	75.66
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	126	33.00-41.00	34-36	34.33
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	511	21.50-24.50	23-24	23.21
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,675	24.00-27.00	25-26	25.33
WINGS (WHOLE)	249	93.00-99.00	-	97.82
WINGS (CUT)	576	107.00-118.00	108-109	110.97
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	47	32.00-41.00	-	33.34
B/S THIGHS	52	92.00-95.00	-	92.58

ITEM	POUNDS (000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	841	115.00-210.00	140-145	144.20
TENDERLOINS	164	145.00-220.00	145	157.93
BREAST - LINE RUN	78	73.00-77.00	-	74.03
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
LEGS	51	34.00-43.00	35-37	37.24
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	391	22.00-25.00	22-23	23.06
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,677	24.00-27.00	25-26	25.52
WINGS (WHOLE)	265	95.00-99.00	97-99	98.48
WINGS (CUT)	522	108.00-118.00	108-110	110.61
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			
THIGHS	52	37.00-43.00	-	38.38
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT			

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS TRADING FOR — F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
44.25 - 54.75	51.86	44.25 - 53.50	49.11	51.02

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS

Trucklot buying interest remained light and selective during midweek trading, with most dealers cautious and unwilling to build existing floorstocks significantly. Offerings of boneless-skinless breasts and bone-in breasts were usually available. Legs and drums were at least adequate. Leg quarters continued to clear well, and tenderloins had become more closely balanced. Wings were usually sufficient. Movement into retail and distributive channels was limited as holiday items began to make their way into the market. The market tone was fully steady to instances firm on leg quarters and tenderloins, about steady on the balance.

*PRICES PAID PER POUND, ICE PACKED AND CO2 PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES

APRIL 03, 2001

APRIL 04, 2001

ITEM	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	130	133.79	805,660
TENDERLOINS	130-135	138.22	160,698
BREAST - WITH RIBS	65-66	74.00	266,080
BREAST - LINE RUN	65	68.58	216,000
LEGS	33-34	37.83	298,960
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	23-24	24.08	579,271
DRUMSTICKS	31-32	35.03	248,033
THIGHS	32-33	36.61	134,619
B/S THIGHS	87-88	90.01	56,260
WINGS (WHOLE)	90-91	98.75	400,734
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.06	79,480
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	34.34	65,995
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	50-55	54.62	103,540

ITEM	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	130	135.01	501,260
TENDERLOINS	135-140	142.28	77,530
BREAST - WITH RIBS	65-66	72.78	271,280
BREAST - LINE RUN	65	67.02	197,000
LEGS	33-34	37.01	219,520
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	24-25	25.21	470,995
DRUMSTICKS	31-32	36.92	155,360
THIGHS	32-33	35.34	129,120
B/S THIGHS	87-88	91.21	46,120
WINGS (WHOLE)	90-91	99.48	372,200
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	11.88	72,220
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	33.98	66,600
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	50-55	59.17	93,760

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG).

* TODAY'S NEGOTIATED SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

** WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	<u>ESTIMATED</u>		<u>ACTUAL</u>		<u>AVG WTS</u>		<u>AVG WTS</u>	
	04/04	04/03	04/02	03/30	04/02	03/30	03/28	03/26
ALA	3,565	3,894	3,732	3,888	5.03	5.04	3,630	5.04
ARK	5,106	5,285	5,119	4,670	4.95	4.73	4,922	4.97
DELMARVA	2,311	2,314	2,241	2,024	5.14	5.00	2,344	5.12
KY-LA-TN	1,691	2,032	1,840	1,964	4.60	4.32	1,838	4.61
MISS	2,737	2,599	2,712	3,292	5.10	4.74	2,525	5.13
NC	2,408	2,552	2,143	2,497	5.96	5.73	2,528	5.87
TEXAS	2,311	2,326	2,307	2,316	4.96	4.82	2,200	5.00
TOTAL	20,129	21,002	20,094	20,651	5.08	4.91	19,987	5.10
MON-WED	61,636(A)						60,831(A)	

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 04-Apr 01 and is estimated to be 30,115,000 down 3.39 percent from a week ago and down 0.5 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 31,173,000; last year 30,277,000)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RETAILERS

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	82-85
ROASTERS 4# & UP	71-90
HENS UNDER 5#	-
HENS OVER 5#	81
DUCKS	139

RABBITS-WHOLE
RABBITS-CUT UP

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	89-94
ROASTERS 4# & UP	102
ICE PACK	104-117
DRY PACK	123
HENS OVER 5#	91-117
ICE PACK	123
DRY PACK	152-170
DUCKS	

ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER

UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FOR WEEK ENDING APRIL 07-01

	CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK
	04/07/01 (1)	03/31/01
CLASS	THOUSAND HEAD	
BRO-FRY	154,619 (2)	154,623
LT HENS	2,056	2,090
HVY HENS	1,543	1,429
CHECK TOTAL	158,218	158,142

(1)ESTIMATED

(2)The estimated number of broiler-fryers available for slaughter the week ending 07-Apr-01 is 150.1 million head compared to 155.5 million head slaughtered the same week last year. The estimated U.S. slaughter this week is 154.9 million head or 4.8 million more than estimated available. For week of 14-Apr-01 the estimated available is 151.5 million head.

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS

SELECTED STORAGE CENTERS

(INCLUDES GOVERNMENT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEY	PROCESSED POULTRY
	LBS	LBS
AM 02-Apr-01	116,507	62,425
AM 1-Mar-01	103,319	62,929
CHG	13,188	-504
PCT CHG	13	-1

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT (IN THOUSANDS)

	PROCESSED TURKEYS			PROCESSED POULTRY		
	04/02/01	03/26/01	04/03/00	04/02/01	03/26/01	04/03/00
PACIFIC						
COAST	15,382	14,650	15,746	6,200	6,233	13,217
LOS						
ANGELES	172	174	176	2,849	2,782	4,065

HACKETTSTOWN POULTRY SALES

FOR 04/03/01

	LOW	HIGH	AVG		LOW	HIGH	AVG
HEAVY FOWL lb.	.50	.90	.77	HEAVY FOWL ea.	-	-	-
LIGHT FOWL lb.	-	-	-	LIGHT FOWL ea.	-	-	-
MIXED FOWL lb.	-	-	-	MIXED FOWL ea.	-	-	-
BANTAMS lb.	1.00	1.25	1.11	BANTAMS ea.	1.25	10.00	-
BROILERS lb.	-	-	-	BROILERS ea.	-	-	-
ROASTERS lb.	-	-	-	ROASTERS ea.	-	-	-
FRYERS lb.	-	-	-	FRYERS ea.	-	-	-
CHICKS lb.	-	-	-	CHICKS ea.	.20	1.20	-
PULLETS lb.	-	-	-	PULLETS ea.	-	-	-
BUNNIES lb.	-	-	-	BUNNIES ea.	3.50	11.50	-
ROOSTERS lb.	.80	2.05	1.39	ROOSTERS ea.	1.00	3.75	-
GEESE lb.	-	.65	-	GEESE ea.	5.50	9.50	-
TURKEYS lb.	-	-	-	TURKEYS ea.	-	-	-
DUCKS lb.	.60	1.45	.97	DUCKS ea.	3.75	4.50	-
RABBITS lb.	.65	1.65	1.31	RABBITS ea.	2.00	6.00	-
PIGEONS lb.	-	-	-	PIGEONS ea.	2.25	10.00	-
GUINEA FOWL lb.	-	-	-	GUINEA FOWL ea.	5.00	8.50	-
DUCKLINGS lb.	-	-	-	DUCKLINGS ea.	.75	2.80	-
GUINEA KEETS ea.	-	6.00	-	CALL DUCKS ea.	-	-	-
SILKIES ea.	4.50	-	-	GOSLINGS ea.	-	-	-
GUINEA PIGS ea.	.75	2.00	-				

TOTAL COOPS 173

CENTRAL MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY RTC HENS

READY-TO-COOK PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR DELIVERY TO FIRST RECEIVERS, U.S. GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 LBS. AND UP, FOR WEEK OF APRIL 02, 2001

	RANGE
HENS ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	56-62
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	59-69

MAJOR WHOLESALE MARKETS-Mexico City

REPORT UNAVAILABLE AT THIS TIME

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